Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Dystonia is a neurological disorder in which powerful, involuntary muscle spasms twist parts or all of the body; and,

Whereas, Such spasms are always disabling and often very painful; and,

Whereas, The cause of Dystonia is unknown, and there is no cure; and,

Whereas, Those who suffer from Dystonia, their families, and their friends, have formed the Dystonia Medical Research Foundation to help one another and to seek the cause and cure; and,

Whereas, The public knows little about Dystonia, which may affect as many as 300,000 people in North America; and,

Whereas, Many citizens react to the physical manifestations of Dystonia by avoiding those who have this disorder, often causing them to experience isolation and deep psychological distress; and,

Whereas, Greater recognition and understanding of Dystonia, both in the medical and the lay communities, are highly desirable; and,

Whereas, Widespread public support of efforts to find the causes and cure of Dystonia is needed:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim the week of June 4 through 10, 2006, as

DYSTONIA AWARENESS WEEK

in South Dakota, and urge all citizens to learn everything they can about this disorder and to aid and support, to the best of their ability, those who are affected by it.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twelfth Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Six.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State